India. Travancore, Cochin and Mysore have brilliant Ministers. They have some degree of representative government. Mysore has fostered industrialisation and for many of the poor peasants electricity is available. Conditions in these states compare very favourably \\ith other parts of India, but there is still much to do. Louis Bromfield in his novel, *Th£ Ra:r^s Came,* gives an attractive picture of a state trying to overcome its bad traditions and build a new life, but at the end it leaves us with a benevolent autocracy governing with the help of enlightened individuals. This is just the difficulty.

For instance, take Mysore. It is impossible not to be attracted by this beautiful state, with its large cities and fine buildings,, its power stations and works of irrigation and its magnificent ancient monuments, carefully preserved. The Maharajah himself is a deeply cultured and devout man. Gandhi found "Ram Raj" in Mysore. *But* democracy is strictly limited. The Assembly has 280 members, of whom 250 are elected. They can criticise but cannot control the administration. The Legislative Council has limited powers of control, but is presided over by the Dewan {Prime Minister) , and a permanent minority of elected representatives. There are municipalities under the control of nominated presidents, district boards with elected presidents, but subject to considerable official control, and *panchayats* which are rather handmaids of the officials. The new power of the Congress in the adjoining provinces of Bombay and Madras has naturally kindled similar aspirations in the hearts of the Mysoreans—an extremely intelligent people.

They had received a rude shock in 1934 when they were told by the Dewan in his speech to the Assembly that "there is no idea of introducing further changes in the Constitution. … I cannot help expressing my surprise that this policy should have been advocated at a time when parliamentary democracy is decaying everywhere." In Mysore both Congress and independent bodies existed, and in 1937 the People's Federation joined the Congress. On the eve of the amalgamation a leading Congressman was arrested on a charge of sedition. Cases of repression and bans on distinguished British Indian Congressmen have been common. Early this year serious trouble ensued and firing took place; a number of people (I think thirty-two) were killed and many injured.

But one may be allowed to prophesy that democracy is